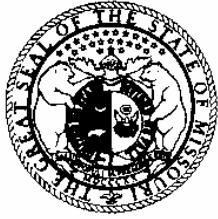


EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



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Situation Report Winter Flooding Event March 23, 2008, 10 a.m.

UPDATED INFORMATION IS IN BOLD

SUMMARY

Water levels are going down today over many flooded areas of Missouri. Colder weather has returned to the State, with light precipitation in the form of rain, freezing rain or snow being reported – **although not in significant amounts.** The number of deaths remains at five. MoDOT reports **94** locations on state roads are currently closed due to flash flooding. **The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports its levees, including a one threatened by high water in Valley Park, are in good shape today (3/23).**

Gov. Matt Blunt signed two State of Emergency Executive Orders for the severe weather and flooding that has struck Missouri. The executive orders activated the State Emergency Operations Center allowing state agency resources to assist local jurisdictions with their emergency response, and activated the Missouri National Guard to assist with protective action.

On Wednesday, The President approved Governor Blunt's request for an expedited disaster declaration. The President's action makes federal funding available to the state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency protective measures, limited to direct federal assistance. Before federal assistance can be available for individuals and businesses, SEMA and FEMA will conduct damage assessments in the 70 counties after the floodwaters have receded. **These Individual Assessments are set to begin this week.** Governor Blunt signed Executive Order 08-12 for DNR to issue Debris/Demolition/Burn Waivers on March 21, 2008. DNR issued the necessary notice late on Friday, March 21, 2008.

Effective immediately, the state EOC will operate Sunday until 12 pm. Any requests for assistance after hours should be directed to the SEMA Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.

County Reports:

Bollinger County – Conservation Dept. workers have been released. 20% of roads substantially damaged, but are passable. All shelters are closed. One is acting as a feeding center. Schools are shooting for a Tuesday reopening. ARC is doing a damage assessment. 30 families are not going to be allowed back into their damaged/destroyed homes.

Butler County – American Red Cross reports there were four people in the Poplar Bluff shelter Saturday.

Cape Girardeau County – All major roads are now open, including most County roads. Dutchtown is now open and they are repairing roads near Allenville. MO Humane Society was on-site to assist with animal issues in Allenville. One shelter was open Friday with 8 residents from Allenville.

Carter County– Minimal damage was only to the Sheriff's Office, not to the whole County. Sheriff's Office was saved, but County still has extensive damage.

Douglas County – Three highways are closed and several county roads are impassable. Damage assessment is underway.

Franklin County – In Pacific there are 184 homes and 35 businesses that have been affected. 30-35 homes in another area along the Meramec River have been damaged/destroyed. 18 county roads and 14 state highways were closed. No fatalities and no injuries were reported. Need assistance with evacuees that have pets. In Pacific, people will not be allowed back into their homes until a building inspector has checked it to make sure that the structures are safe. County has also adopted this policy. One shelter opened in the overnight.

Jefferson County – **Waters are receding and most roads are back open this morning (3/23). The shelter is now closed. It appears several roads in the southern end of the county were damaged by flood waters.**

Laclede County – An estimated 20-30 homes and 10-12 businesses have been damaged or destroyed by flooding. Hundreds of county roads and low water crossings were damaged. Shelter and EOC are closed. Salvation Army delivered plenty of flood clean-up kits – They are available for other counties.

Maries County – One business and 8-10 homes have been affected. No requests at this time.

New Madrid County – Some minor temporary power outages were reported. No shelters open.

Osage County – County reports 12 homes (primary residences) have been flooded.

Pulaski County – Many roads closed causing travel complications. One business and about 12 homes were under water. Emergency evacuation of some homes has taken place. Hwy 17 and Route T north of Waynesville were closed. Ten people were housed in local hotels.

Reynolds County – Major damage reported in city of Ellington, with 30-50 homes evacuated. Lots of road damage throughout the county. About 100 homes and 20 businesses are affected. City of Ellington requesting help with 30 families in need of housing. Dept. of Social Services working with Red Cross and Salvation Army on filling need. The shelter in Ellington is now closed. Damage assessment process is underway.

Scott County – Most roads are now open. Commerce is the primary problem as the Mississippi River continues to rise. No shelters at this time.

St. Francois County –Three homes were flood damaged. 25 county roads closed. City of Bonne Terre Community Lake had a dam with a blocked overflow but the water went down and situation has stabilized.

St. Louis County – **Water levels are going down this morning and sandbagging has stopped. 30 county roads are closed as is Highway 141 at I-44 in Valley Park. Highway 109 in Eureka has been re-opened. One shelter was open with seven residents.** City of Fenton reports about 350,000 sandbags were placed, a few homes and roads were affected, and some residents were evacuated.

St. Louis City – No issues to report at this time. Floodgates are still up in the City. Monitoring the backwater from the River Des Peres.

Ste. Genevieve County –Revised river forecast indicates that St. Mary will not be having problems; however they have sandbags in case of emergency.

Shannon County- Major flooding reported across the county, with lots of road damage. In Winona, 50 homes and three businesses are damaged, some streets not accessible. Shelters are closed as of Thursday afternoon and damage assessment is underway. A section of Highway 106 was heavily damaged and now closed. Americorps is on-scene to assist with damage assessment.

Scott County – Some flooding still reported in Commerce on Friday. No evacuations or sandbagging operations underway. Chaffee nursing home is being repopulated. 100 homes and 15 businesses with damages.

Wayne County – American Red Cross reports the shelter in Piedmont had seven people Saturday and that water service has been restored there.

State Agencies

State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) is operating the state Emergency Operations Center until 12pm Sunday. SEMA damage assessments will start Tuesday with the focus will be on Individual Assistance.

Department of Conservation – Conservation Dept. personnel are assisting local units of government. Three dozers and seven staff assisted with emergency road opening work in Wayne County. MDC employees also assisting with emergency road-opening work in Bollinger, Butler, Carter, Madison, Reynolds and Shannon Counties.

Department of Corrections – DOC had a bulldozer in Piedmont/Wayne County to divert a creek back to its original location after repair piping for the water system.

Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) – DHSS assessing affects of flooding on local nursing homes, hospitals and health clinics. DHSS is working with City of Noel in McDonald County and monitoring possible effects of a flooded pharmacy in Doniphan in Ripley County. DHSS confirmed that Advance Home Health Agency is relocating their patient records only to the Advance Hospital located in Ellington. Local public health agencies are providing tetanus vaccines for MoDOT employees in impacted areas. DHSS Protective Services staffs are conducting wellness checks on their clients. Press releases on food and water safety, and waiving fee for private well-water testing have been issued.

Department of Mental Health (DMH) – Divisions are checking on providers in affected flood areas. Some group home providers in southeast MO have been impacted. DMH needs to be notified of evacuations in Cape Girardeau as they want to take care of their clients, if they have to be evacuated.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – DNR Regional Offices are assessing wastewater, drinking water, and solid waste issues throughout the State. Dam Safety staff responding to several water impoundments that are having safety issues. Information on issues, such as the closure of several state parks, can be accessed on DNR's website. DNR has assisted with water/sewer problems in Noel, as well as Wayne and St. Louis Counties. As a result of Executive Order 08-12, DNR has issued a burn/demolition waiver for

debris and other waste. The specifics of the Order can be viewed on the DNR website (www.dnr.mo.gov) **DNR now moving into Recovery-related HazMat issues, such as the recovery of storage tanks and materials.**

Department of Social Services (DSS) – Family Support Division County Managers throughout the southern portion of Missouri have maintained contact with their local emergency management officials to offer services where needed during this week's flash flooding. Wayne County staff assisted with serving lunch to emergency management workers, Bollinger County staff assisted at shelters at the First Baptist Church in Marble Hill and Zalma Baptist Church in Zalma, Stone County staff assisted at the shelter at the Assembly of God Church in Galena, and Butler County staff assisted at the Black River Coliseum shelter. Children's Division staff from Reynolds County helped out at the Southern Reynolds County School shelter. Franklin County staff is assisting at the River Bend School shelter and Cape Girardeau County staff is assisting at the Delta Civic Center shelter. Children's Division staff also assisting with the process of checking on the safety of foster children and are checking at shelters to assist with caring for school-age children. Managers will continue to maintain contact with local officials as needed throughout this emergency event.

Department of Transportation (MoDOT) – MoDOT is reporting **94** road closures as of Saturday afternoon. **Most major roads and highways are now open.**

Missouri Information Analysis Center – MIAC has been assisting SEMA in updating the situation throughout the State.

Missouri National Guard (MoNG) – **Missouri National Guard has been released from all out-state assignments as of Saturday (3/22).**

Missouri Office of Administration (OA) – Several OA and Dept. of Conservation staff were in Wayne County to assess the water system infrastructure in Piedmont and Patterson. OA is on-site at State EOC to try to assist local jurisdictions with their resource needs. OA also monitoring possible effects of flooding on state-owned facilities.

Missouri State Fire Marshal – Mutual aid has been activated. Tanker Strike Team in on-scene in Piedmont to relieve the current team that has been standing by for fire protection. Fire Marshal's Office has two swift water rescue teams standing by in Region I.

Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) – MSHP is assisting stranded motorists and local communities in closing highways. Troopers responded to assist flooding-related traffic congestion along I-44 in St. Louis County. MSHP escorted trucks hauling concrete barriers to that area that were placed along roadways. **The Patrol is providing perimeter security in the City of Pacific.**

Missouri State Water Patrol – MSWP has 15 officers in the Valley Park/Eureka area assisting in security patrols, evacuations and monitoring the levees in the area. They also have 3 officers in Butler County assisting the local officials.

Non Government Organizations/Volunteer Organizations:

American Red Cross (ARC) is assisting with setting up shelters and providing clean up kits as needed. Moving into Recovery phase to begin doing damage assessments. **Five shelters were open in affected areas Saturday night. ARC is planning to open service centers in Piedmont, Poplar Bluff and Cape Girardeau.**

AmeriCorps – 15 volunteers were moved to St. Louis area to assist with flood response there. Others assisted in efforts in Butler, Shannon, Carter, Reynolds, and Wayne Counties. Staff is also on-site at SEOC (2 people). Assisting with damage assessment in south-central and southeastern Missouri.

Missouri Humane Society – MHS deployed to affected area to assist with issues involving pets and companion animals. MHS assigned one person to the SEOC to assist in resolving animal/pets issues. **Teams are now in Cape Girardeau and Caruthersville and their emergency shelter remains open in St. Louis.**

Salvation Army (SA) – Salvation Army is assisting with providing flood clean-up kits and clothing and hygiene kits to affected residents. **SA EOC remains open in St. Louis County. They will assist ARC with staffing service centers and ready to provide mobile feeding operations in affected areas.**

United Way - 211 – is for Non-Emergency calls only....only for information. **211 received 17 calls from flood-affected people in the 24-hour period ending this morning (3/23).**

Weather

National Weather Service (St. Louis) indicates some light precipitation is forecast today with a high in the 40s. Tonight's low will be around 30. Highs for the next few days should be in the 50s and 60s. A cold front will move back in on Wednesday, bringing a chance of rain through Friday in the region. Rainfall amounts are expected to stay rather light, although amounts up to two inches are possible.

Point of Contact:

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted until 12pm Sunday at 573-526-9100. Any requests for assistance after hours should be directed to the SEMA Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.